

FILED
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF NEW MEXICO

AO 91 (Rev. 11/11) Criminal Complaint

21 MAY 25 AM 11:05

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the

District of New Mexico

CLERK-LAS CRUCES

United States of America)

v.)

John Benjamin Thornton) Case No. 21-713 MJ

Defendant(s)

CRIMINAL COMPLAINT

I, the complainant in this case, state that the following is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

On or about the date(s) of May 18, 2021 in the county of Dona Ana in the
District of New Mexico, the defendant(s) violated:

Code Section

18 U.S.C. 875(c)

Offense Description

Transmitting in interstate commerce communications containing any threat to
injure the person of another

This criminal complaint is based on these facts:

See Attachment A, attached and incorporated herein.

☒ Continued on the attached sheet.

Sworn to before me and signed in my presence.

Date:

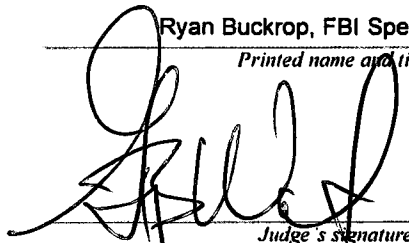
5/25/2021

City and state:

Las Cruces, New Mexico
Complainant's signature

Ryan Buckrop, FBI Special Agent

Printed name and title


Judge's signature

Gregory B. Wormuth, U.S. Magistrate Judge

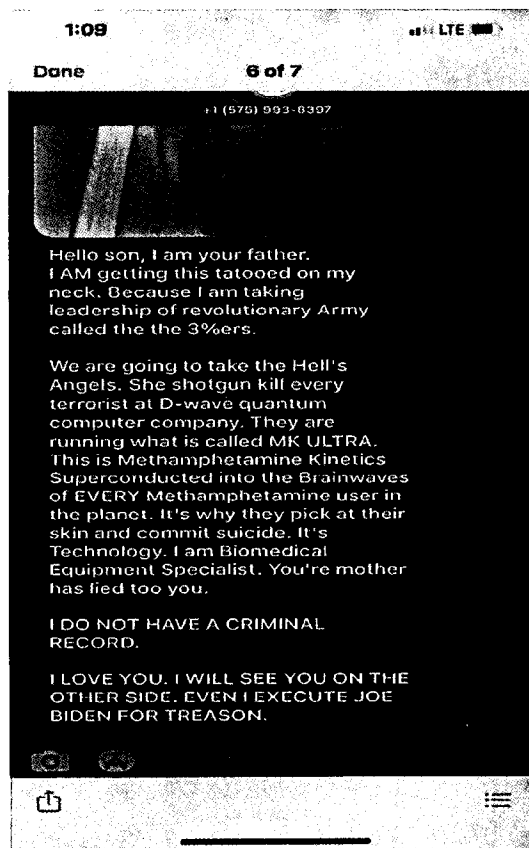
Printed name and title

ATTACHMENT A - AFFIDAVIT

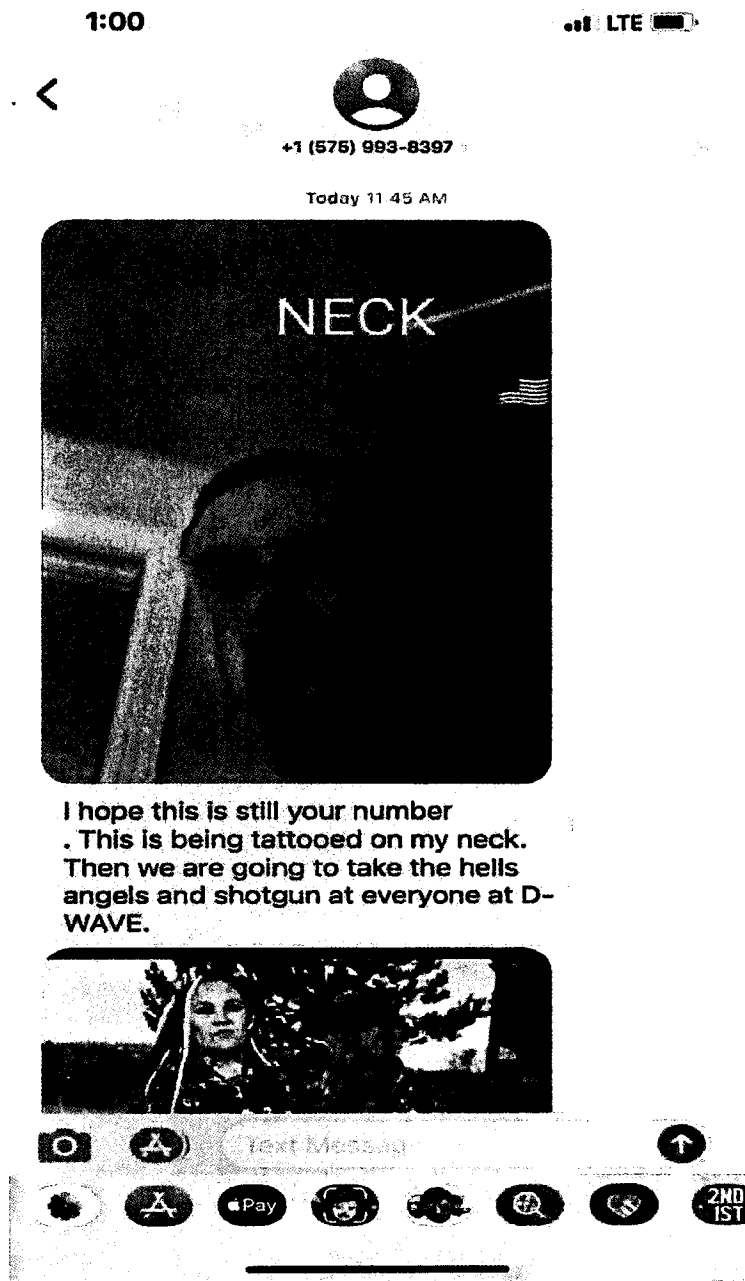
I, Ryan Buckrop, am a Special Agent with the Federal Bureau of Investigation and have been employed as such since August 2016. In my career, I have investigated numerous violations of a variety of federal statutes, including violent crimes, drug trafficking, and allegations of threats made by subjects in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 875(c), Interstate Communications.

On or about May 18, 2021, the FBI received information that the user of cellular telephone number, who's subscriber is John Benjamin Thornton, sent threatening communications via text to four different individuals.

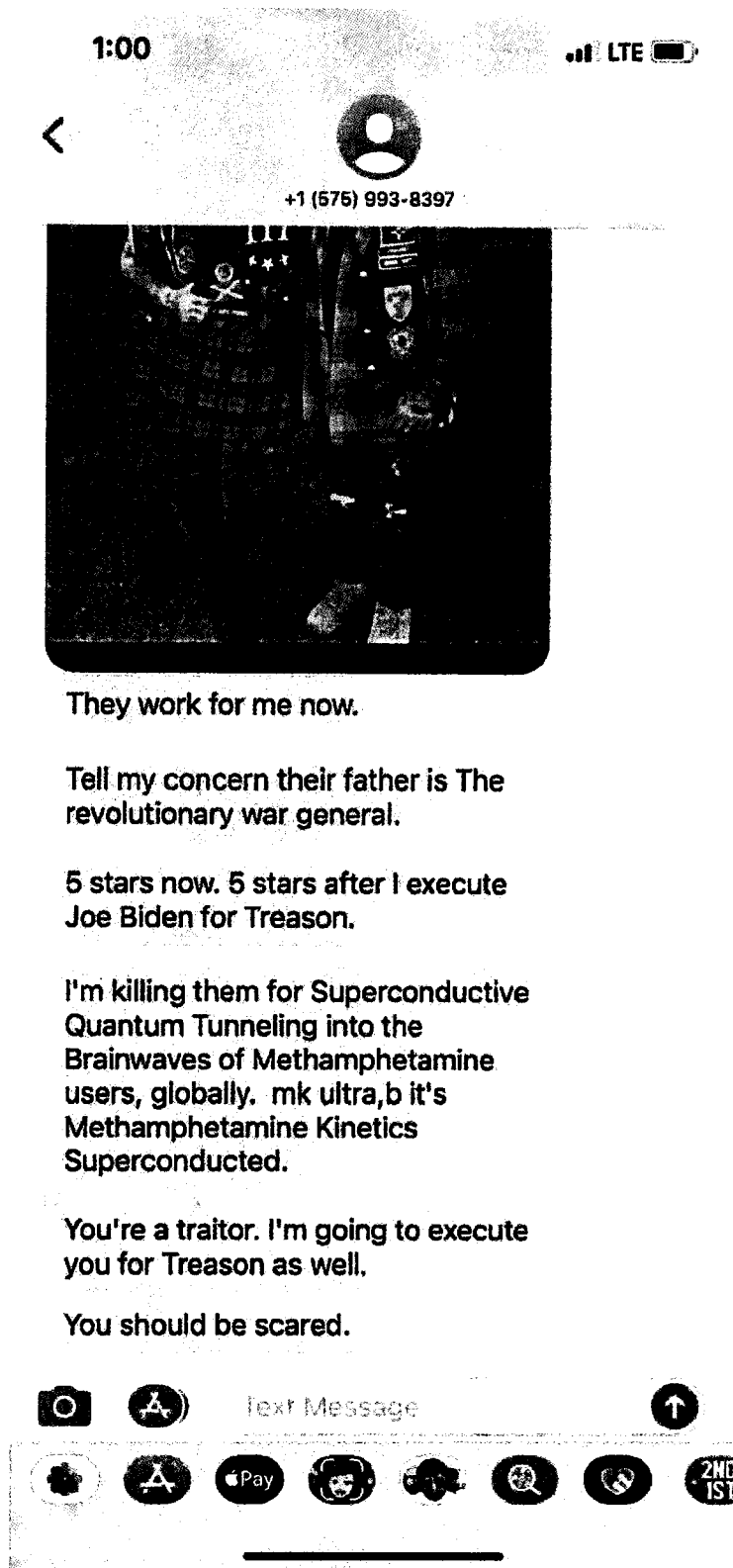
Victim 1, who was in Katy, Texas at the time he/she received the message, received the following message:



Victim 2, who was in Katy, Texas, at the time he/she received the message, received the following text messages:

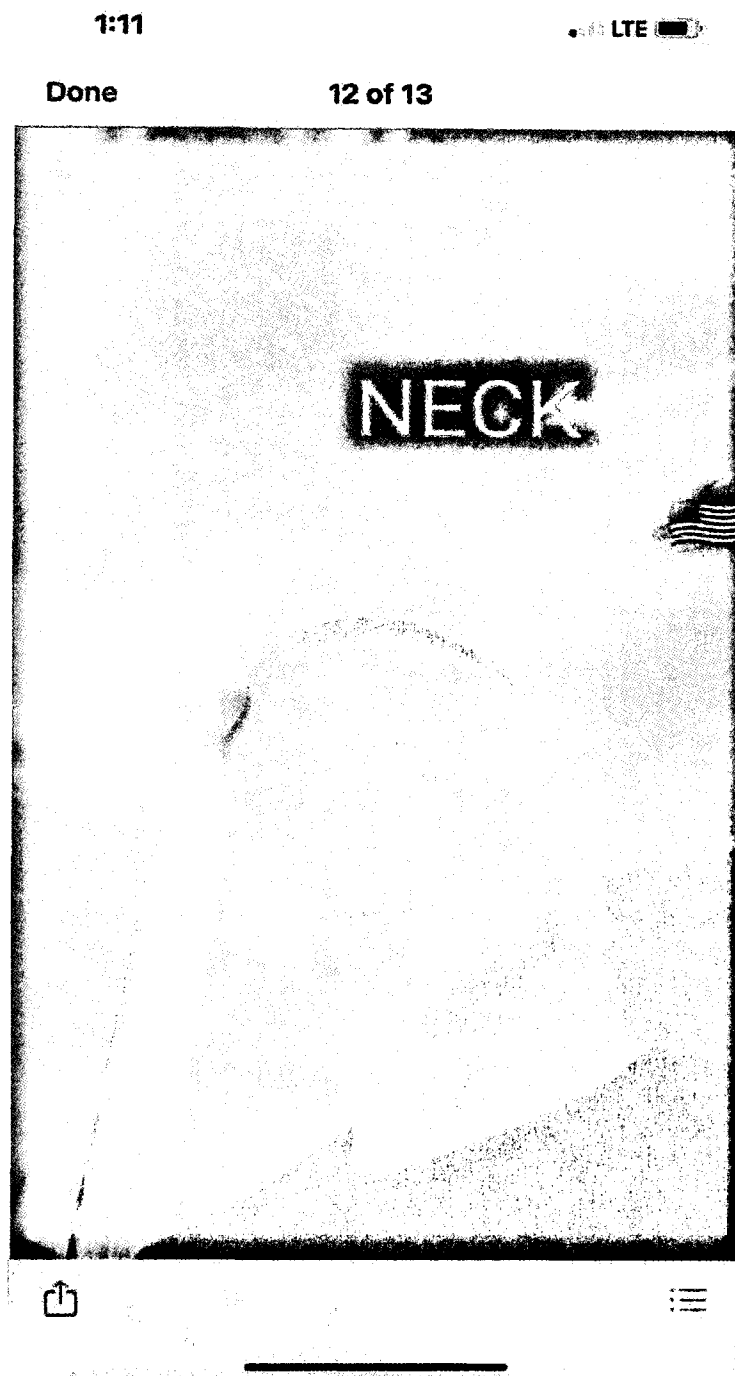


GFW



[Handwritten signature]

Victim 3, who was in Navarre, Florida at the time he/she received the message, received the following messages:



CFW

1:11

LTE



2 People



This is being tattooed on my neck.
Then we are taking the Hells Angel's
to d-wave quantum computer
company and shotgun execute every
single one of them for running MK
ULTRA

it's Methamphetamine Kinetics
Superconducted.

Then I'm going execute you for
Treason as well. I'm going to kill you
for standing in my way.



Messages



GEW

1:11

LTE



2 People



They work for me. Unless he wants to repent. 🤔🇺🇸

You are so stupid. I AM a professional biomedical equipment specialist that worked on the staff that built the neurological Research institute at Texas Children's Hospital in Houston it's most advanced in the world.

That's my resume. Yes says. You're FUCKING DEAD [REDACTED]

We already voted. Love your last days if [REDACTED] didn't intervene on my children like you did. She will be spared.



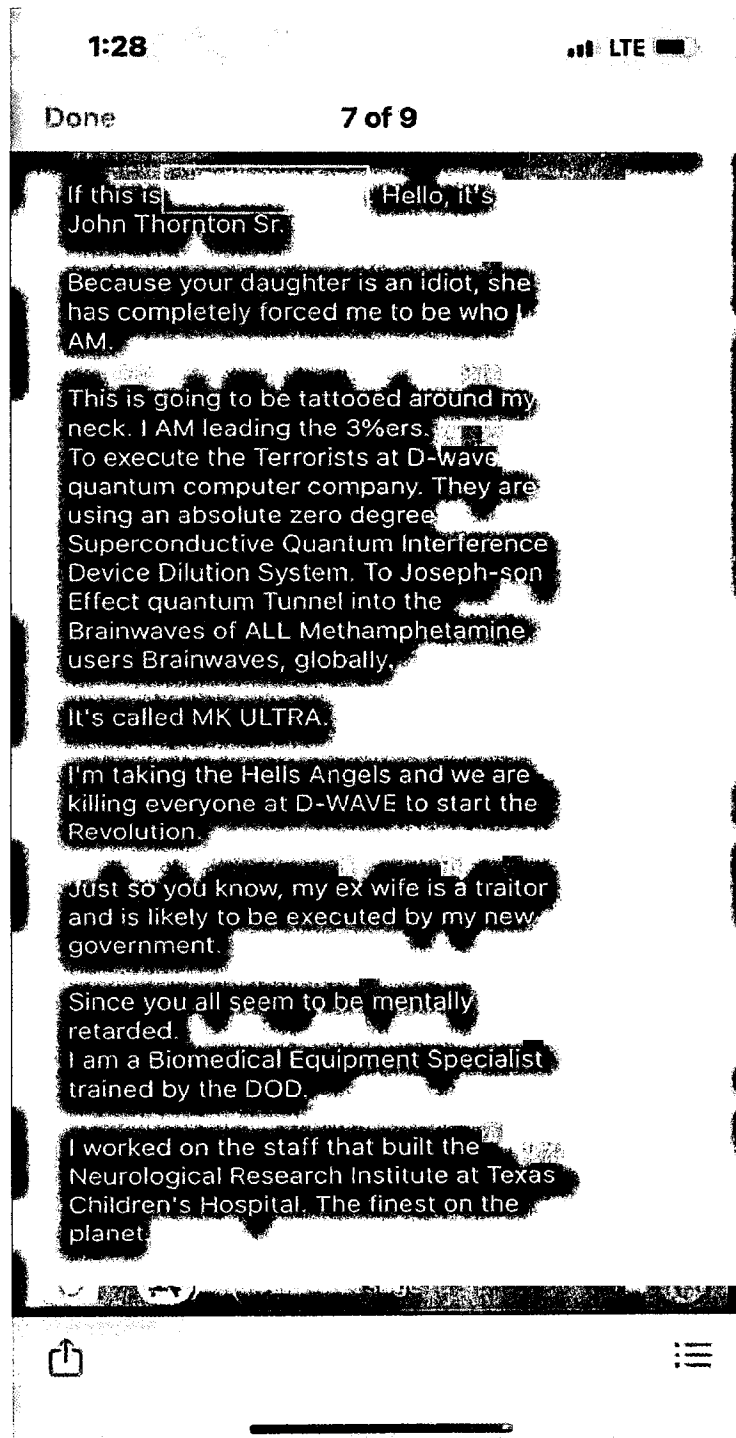
Message



2ND
1ST

[Handwritten signature]

Victim 4, who was in Katy, Texas at the time he/she received the message, received the following message:



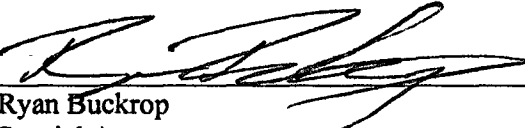
[Handwritten signature]

On May 20, 2021, FBI agents involved in the investigation conducted a review of information located in the FBI's complaint database system related to Thornton. Thornton has been the subject of complaints since November 11, 2020, by several persons who have received messages characterized as disturbing or threatening since that time.

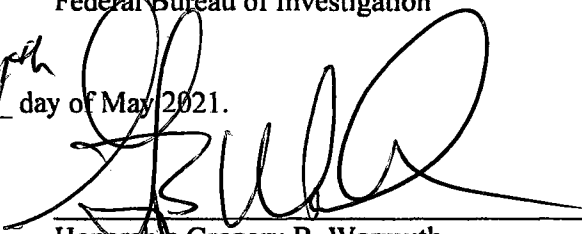
On May 21, 2021, FBI agents obtained a federal search warrant to review records regarding the location of Thornton's cellular telephone—the same device that sent the text messages listed above. According to records from Thornton's cell phone provider, his phone was in Las Cruces, New Mexico, when the texts referenced above were sent. Accordingly, the communications described above crossed state lines.

Based on a review of Thornton's driver's license photo, agents recognized him in photos associated with the threatening text messages sent from the cellular phone subscribed by Thornton.

Based on the information described above, there is probable cause that John Benjamin Thornton committed violations of Title 18, United States Code, § 875(c) – Transmitting in interstate commerce communications containing any threat to injure the person of another.


Ryan Buckrop
Special Agent
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subscribed and sworn before me this 24th day of May 2021.


Honorable Gregory B. Wormuth
United States Magistrate Judge

